

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01922 270806Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 /060 W
-----270832Z 008226 /23

R 270636Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3819
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1922

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR LE
SUBJ: SHIA POLITICS: MOHSEN SLIM, MAN OF THE HOUR

1. SHIA POLITICAL FIGURE MOHSEN SLIM CALLED ON ME APRIL 26 TO GIVE REPORT ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA WHERE HE WAS RECEIVED BY PRINCE FAHD AND OMAR SHAMS, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS CHIEF OF SAUDI INTELLIGENCE. ACCORDING TO SLIM, HE IS SAUDIS' CHOSEN INSTRUMENT IN LEBANON. MUFTI OF LEBANON HASSAN AL KHALID, WHO ALSO HAPPENED TO BE IN RIYADH AT SAME TIME, WAS ASSIGNED TO SECOND-CLASS HOTEL AND TOLD THAT IF HE WANTED SAUDI SUPPORT HE WOULD HAVE TO FOLLOW PRINCIPLES SET FORTH BY SLIM IN HIS RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE LEBANESE FORCE, SLIM'S NEW POLITICAL PARTY (SEE BEIRUT A-11).

2. SLIM SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY BE GOING TO WASHINGTON FOR FAHD VISIT, BOTH AT REQUEST OF SAUDIS AND IN CONNECTION WITH BUSINESS OF PARIS LAW FIRM OF WHICH HE IS PARTNER.

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3. SLIM IS IN MEANTIME PROCEEDING WITH HIS CAMPAIGN TO BUILD UP HASSAN SHIRAZI, SHEIKH OF THE SITT ZEINAB SHRINE NEAR DAMASCUS, AS RIVAL AND SUCCESSOR TO IMAM MUSA SADR. HE WAS TAKING SHIRAZI TO SEE PRESIDENT SARKIS LATER IN DAY AND PLANNING GIVE PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 27 IN WHICH HE IS DISTRIBUTING NEW MANIFESTO AND

INTRODUCING SHIRAZI.

4. SLIM WANTS TO ASSURE US THAT HE IS AT OUR DISPOSAL AND IS READY TO DO WHATEVER WE WANT TO MAINTAIN STABILITY OF LEBANON. HE SUGGESTS, FOR INSTANCE, THAT WE TELL ISRAELIS THAT AT LEAST 50 PER CENT OF THE LEBANESE FORCES IN THE SOUTH, WHICH HE INSISTS ON CALLING AN ISRAELI STRIKING FORCE, SHOULD BE SHIA BECAUSE IF THE CHRISTIANS AND SHIA GET TOGETHER THEY WILL DOMINATE THE COUNTRY FOR THE GOOD OF ALL.

5. ALL THIS HAS A VERY FAMILIAR RING. I REPORT IT, HOWEVER, AS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST AND FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.
PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL LEADERS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, LE, SA, (SLIM, MOSHEN)
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